

Terms of Subscription

INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

Single Copy,	\$3.00
Two Copies,	5.00
Ten Copies,	22.50
Twenty Copies,	40.00

CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Club and single subscriptions may be remitted by mail, at our risk; a registry of the amount being made at the Post Office from which the remittances sent.

PROSPECTUS

"THE OXFORD SIGNAL."

THE subscribers having purchased the office, materials, &c., of the Democratic Flag, propose to publish in the town of Oxford, Miss., a weekly political journal, to be known in future under the name of *The Oxford Signal*.

Not being entire strangers to the programme of politics for any future year in this undertaking, need at this time be presented. Suffice it to say, that the *Signal* will, like its predecessor, the *Flag*, zealously advocate the time-honored and time-tested creed of the

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY,

as first promulgated by Jefferson and his compatriots, in contravention of political dogmas and heresies similar in many respects to those which we are at present called upon to oppose—a creed, whose policies have not only met the sanction of every true patriot in our land, but have, in every post emergency of our government, proved their "sufficiency unto all things," political and have given impulse to our renown as a nation unparalleled in the annals of earth.

While the *Signal* will be "national not sectional" in its politics—while it will advocate what it may conceive to be the true interests of our whole country, it will watch with jealous care those peculiar to the Southern portion of our confederacy, whenever assailed by Fanaticism, native or foreign, having at all times a strict view to the peace and perpetuity of a

CONSTITUTIONAL UNION,

the only Union which can be regarded as being of paramount political value.

The *Signal* will seek to elevate the standard of political honor and political freedom, to this end, will wage a war of extermination upon all oath-bound and secret political organizations ever founded in distrust of the morality and intelligence of the masses, and their capacity for self government.

It will advocate an equal right in every citizen to a participation in the blessings of a happy government, without regard to the place of nativity, religious or political persuasion, imposing no other tests in office than honesty, capacity and fidelity to the constitution.

We will advocate a regular system of COMMON SCHOOLS within our State borders, and cordially co-operate in the infusion of a spirit of State pride in our Seminaries of Learning, Colleges and State University.

In order to enhance the interest of the *Signal* to the general reader, its first side shall generally be devoted to

POLITE LEARNING

AND

Miscellaneous Paragraphs.

Tales, Sketches, &c., judiciously selected from the current literature of the day.

The *Signal* will be issued regularly on Thursday of each week, from and after the 1st of February, proximo, at the following rates, to-wit:

1 Copy,	\$3.00 per annum advance.
2 "	5.00 "
10 "	22.50 "
20 "	40.00 "

The Cash System being the most pleasant both to patron and publisher, and only successful one in enterprises of this kind, there will be no deviation in any case from the above terms.

M. A. McKINNON,

E. J. LIPSEY,

Proprietors

Oxford, Miss., Jan. 31, 1856.

1856

B. L. PHIPPS,

GROCER

MERCHANT,

OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI

AGENT FOR

J. C. GRIFFING & BRO.

MEMPHIS, TENN.

I have now on hand, a large stock of Bagging, Rope, Sugar, Coffee, Molasses, Mackerel, Candles, Sigsars, Tobacco, Tea, Rice, Salt, Onaburgh, Linsey, Kersey, Champagne Wine, Brandy, Fine and Common Whiskey.

All of which I will sell low for cash. To those who design shipping their Cotton to J. C. GRIFFING & BRO., I will make liberal cash advances, and furnish them with supplies on accommodating terms.

Consignments of Flour, Corn Meal, Bacon, Lard, Eggs and Butter, solicited. Cotton will, also, be taken in exchange for Groceries.

B. L. PHIPPS.

Oxford, Sept. 18, 1856—18

THE OXFORD SIGNAL

M. A. McKINNON
E. J. LIPSEY,

TRUTH FEARS NOTHING BUT CONCEALMENT.

PROPRIETORS.

VOL. 1.

OXFORD, MISS., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1856.

NO. 37.

Select Poetry.

THE HOUSEHOLD BABY.

BY EFFIE.

What a joy in human eyes,
When in infancy, or when it cries,
What a treasure, what a prize
Is the household baby!

Be its temper rising, falling,
Is it cooing, crowing, calling,
'Tis the same dear, precious darling—
Is the household baby!

If the scene without be dreary,
If the hearts within grow weary,
Baby wakes, and all is cheery—
What a rush for baby!

Mamma's eyes grow bright with joy—
Grandpa laughs, and "grandpa's boy"
Gladly leaves his last new toy
To play bo-peep with baby.

Sisters from their music run,
Mama has caught "the sweetest one."
Grace bends down in girlish fun
To make a horse for baby!

Up to everything we know
Hands and feet "upon the go,"
What a faun creature though,
Is the household baby!

Bring the puppy and the cat,
Let her pull, and punch, and pat,
Puss and pig were made for that,
Made to please the baby!

Bring those china vases, mamma,
Get "the mirror and the hammer!"
Anything to make a clamor,
And delight the baby!

Let it clang and clash away,
Let it laugh, and shout, and play,
And be happy while it may,
Dear mischievous baby!

What a joy to human eyes,
What an angel in disguise,
What a treasure, what a prize,
Is the household baby!

Female Beauty.

"Dean Swift proposed to tax female beauty and to raise her own charms. He said the tax would be cheerfully paid and very productive."

"Pompeii thus daintily compliments the sex, when he compares women and clocks—the latter serve to point out the hours, the former to make us forget them."

"The standards of beauty in women vary with those of taste. Socrates called beauty a short-lived tyranny; Plato a privilege of nature; Theophrastus a silent cheat; Theocritus, a delightful prejudice; Casanades, a solitary kingdom; and Aristotle affirmed that it was better than all the letters of recommendation in the world."

With the Modern Greeks and other nations on the shores of the Mediterranean corpulence is the perfection of form in woman; and these very attributes which disgust the Western European, from the attractions of an Oriental fair. It was from the common and admired shape of his country women, that Robens in his pictures delighted so much in a plumpness; when his master was desirous to represent the "beautiful," he had no idea of beauty under two hundred weight.

The hair is a beautiful ornament of woman, but it has always been a disputed point which color most becomes it. We account red hair an abomination; but in the time of Elizabeth I found admirers and was in fashion Mary of Scotland, though she had exquisite hair of her own, wore red fronts. Cleopatra was red haired; and the Venetian ladies to this day count "yellow hair."

"After all that may be said or sung about it, beauty is an undeniable fact, and its endowment not to be disparaged. Sydney Smith gives some good advice on the subject 'Never teach false morality. How exquisitely absurd to teach a girl that beauty is of no use! Beauty is of value—her whole prospects and happiness in life may often depend upon a new gown or a becoming bonnet; if she has five grains of common sense, she will find her way out. The great thing is to teach her that just value, and that there must be something better under the bonnet than pretty face for real happiness. But never sacrifice truth."

A vacant mind invites dangerous inmates, as a deserted mansion tempts wandering outcasts to enter and take up their abode in its desolate apartments.

SCRAPS.

A juvenile spendthrift, who had spent all his money and got over head and ears in debt, when asked what he should do, replied "I shall have to go to the devil or get into Congress."

A learned writer says that books are masters who instruct us without rods or ferules, without words or anger, without bread or money. If you approach them, they are not asleep, if you seek them, they do not hide if you blunder they do not scold, if you are ignorant they do not laugh at you.

A great crowd having gathered about a poor cobbler, who had just died in the street a man asked another what was to be seen? "Only a cobbler's end," was the reply.

An editor out west has married a girl of the name of Church. He says he has enjoyed more happiness since he joined the Church than he ever knew in his life before.

A little ragged child was heard to call from the window of a mean-looking house to her opposite neighbor—Please, Mrs. Miller, mother's compliments, and if it is a fine day, will you go a begging with her tomorrow?

A wise lady said, "If a woman would have the world respect her husband, she must set the example."

He who forgets the fountain out of which he drank, and the trees under whose shade he gumbled in the days of his youth, is a stranger to the sweetest impressions of a human heart.

A negro hunting a conch in a tree, heard something drop on the ground. "Oh golly! massa," he cried, "I looked up an' found it was dis darkey."

A little boy, while writing under the age, was told to rise up and take a powder which had been prepared for him. "Powder! powder!" said he, raising himself on one elbow, and spitting out a word, "that's not a gun!"

A doctor knows the human body as a cabman knows town: he is acquainted with all the great thoroughfares and small turnings—he is intimate with all the principal edifices; but he cannot tell what is going on inside any one of them.

Every man has just as much vanity as he wants understanding.

The best certificate of a man's character is, "He keeps his promises."

Selfishness is its own curse—it is a starving vice. The man who does no good reaps none.

Some one twitted Randolph on his want of education, "The gentleman himself," replied Randolph, "reminds me of the Montgomery lands which are poor by nature, and cultivation entirely ruins them."

It was said of a certain musical dancing master, that the whole "tenor" of his life had been "base."

An officer being seen with a brick in his hat, an old soldier observed "that he suspected there was something very wrong at head quarters."

A physician advertised that he had removed near the church-yard, at the request of his friends, and trusted that his removal would accommodate many of his patients.

Mr. Smith told a neighbor that he had purchased a set of jewels for his dear wife, which cost \$2,000. "Guess she is rather a 'dear' wife," replied the other.

An Irish boy having been remarked for his quickness of reply, a gentleman, on looking at him, observed, "that when children are so keen in their youth, they are generally stupid when they advance in years." "What a very sensible boy you must have been yourself, sir!" said the youngster. This being enough for one dose, the gentleman slid.

GILBERT STUART—This celebrated portrait-painter once met a lady in the street in Boston who saluted him with—

"Ah, Mr. Stuart, I have seen your miniature, and kissed it, because it was so much like you!"

"And did it kiss you in return?"

"Why, no."

"Then, madam," replied Stuart "it was not at all like me!"

THE KANSAS QUESTION.

What is the most distinctive feature

of the Kansas and Nebraska act?

Simply a vindication of the principles

of the compromise measures, advoca-

ted by Fremont, and Cass in

1820 to 1824, and named, a nominal

compromise, but one of the noblest

in that long interval, their war against

the geographical line, then designated,

was fierce and incessant. They kept

no faith even in that one-sided measure

and replied it in all their associations

and conventions—in their party con-

ferences, their speeches, and their pub-

lic acts of every character. As long

as it lasted they denounced it as the

curse of the land, against which they

said they were compelled, by their

grieved consciences, to bear testimony.

In 1850 the public men from the slave-

holding States proposed, as a measure

of final adjustment and pacification,

to run the line of 36 30 to the Pacific.

The question was tried in Congress,

and rejected by a compact and nearly

united vote of the non-slaveholding

States. The South was not inclined

to complain capriciously of this. Laying

aside the question of the unconstitution-

ality of the act of 1820, of which

we entertain no doubt, it had no single

element of political philosophy or

practical statesmanship to recommend it.

It was an attempt, under a most art-

fully created pressure of excitement,

suddenly started by sectional prejudice

and animosity, to establish an arbi-

trary geographical line as applicable

to a social question. It was, how-

ever, repudiated by real sentiment of

the North and the South. The love

of the Union, deep and strong among

the good men on both sides, alone sus-

tained it. In 1850, when the question

again inevitably arose by the acqui-

sition of more territory, no appeal

on the part of the South would be lis-

tened to, and no spirit on the part of

the North was found willing to sustain it.

The practical truth then first impress-

ed itself upon a nation, that the

anger and the more numerous would

seize upon the whole heritage, or else

in the struggle to do so in Congress,

read this Union asunder? Could it be

supposed that, under such circumstan-

ces, any portion of the States of this

Union would abandon their equal

constitutional rights? The statesmen

to whom we have before adverted

thought not. They were compelled

to resort to some other definitive

measure. That turned out not to be a

new one, but wisely adapted by the

principles of perfect justice to secure

permanent relief against the repeated

agitations which had so often threaten-

ed the destruction of our political system.

In this connection it is most instructive

to know that the statesmen of that day

found it necessary to go back and take

the wisdom of our fathers as the best

and only guide. With the institution

of slavery as it existed from the first

and with our constitution, they found

no other means of rescue except the

plain fundamental principles estab-

lished by that instrument. They were,

that the States should be absolutely

equal in their rights, privileges, and im-

munities. The people of each territory, instead of having an arbitrary, geographical line, to settle political questions effecting their social relations, were to be the only power to determine the character of their domestic institutions, conformably to the guarantees of the constitution can live together as a united government of States. Is it not equal and just? Can that be answered in the negative? Nobody has ever yet so answered it; and we demand, instead of idle platitudes, that the man who questions it shall boldly make a charge against the wisdom of the fathers.

When we say no man has answered it we do not mean to include Garrison and his platoon, who have long inculcated the idea that this constitution, which had not only the sanction of Washington and sages of the revolution, but may be said to have been steeped in the blood shed for our independence, is a league with hell; but we mean that the proposition has never been answered by any man claiming to love the institutions of our country. In 1854 the indispensable necessity presented itself of organizing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska. The enterprising, emigrating spirit of our people could not be repressed. The

tide would roll on, and no power could stay it. A large and increasing population would pass into that vast fertile region, and the only question was, Shall they be their will or without law? Had Congress any moral discretion in the matter? Was it not their clear duty to provide for what they should have had no inclination to prevent, and what they really had no power to control? Who doubts it? No man of intelligence. Yet partisans ignorantly or wickedly ask, Why was this question reopened?

We reply it has not been reopened, but that, an urgent and undeniable necessity presenting itself, the sound principles asserted in 1850 were practically applied for its settlement. That legislation had this extent, and no more. No just and patriotic man can deny it. Our countrymen were invited to no new solution of a difficult problem—no new path in our career of advancement and greatness was suggested to them. But we took a principle ready furnished to our hands, and which was fundamental in our institutions. It is in vain to say that the Kansas and Nebraska issue was a reopening of the slavery agitation. It is false to say that it was the cause of it. We do not deny that it was the leading political incident seized upon by the artful and ambitious for evil purposes, but history affirms that an occasion has never been wanting for the last thirty years for all the disturbances upon this subject which fanaticism could produce. The pretence for it has been found, at different times, in every change and color of political events, and in all sets of circumstances. But there has been no change in the purposes of those who really desire to overthrow the constitution, and to make us, instead of being a people with more individual and social enjoyment, and with a large liberty than the world has ever yet seen, the mere fragments of a glorious republic, each and all, North and South, smitten with unutterable woe. The occasion of agitation, beginning in 1833, was the existence of slavery in the District of Columbia; then the admission of Texas, as an integral part of the Union, then the compromise measures of 1850. We do not mean to say that each and all of these were the real causes of the fierce strife of abolitionism, for they were not. They were, however, like the Kansas and Nebraska issue, the pretences, used for the time being, to stir and inflame that spirit of sectional prejudice and fanaticism, to control and suppress which the Father of his Country pronounced his farewell address. So soon as the present presidential canvass shall have passed away, and that great party which has defended the country in war, and stood by the constitution in peace, has triumphed, as it surely will, Kansas and Nebraska will cease to sound in men's ears.

But we have been led a little out of line our purpose, which was chiefly to direct public attention to the documents published in another column. The country will at least be satisfied that there is, under the present wise, patriotic, and energetic Executive, to be no civil war in Kansas—no protracted conflict of arms between partisans or contending factions. If lives must be sacrificed, the conflict must occur between those who follow the flag of their country with all the thirty-one stars blazing in their places, and those who defy the laws, and would, in their fanaticism, obliterate at least half of them with blood. We believe there have been wrongs on both sides in Kansas—wrong which reason and law and prudence can repair, but which ridges whether in the hands of the men from the East or the West, could never remedy. The purpose of the President, that the fundamental principle of the Kansas and Nebraska bill should be carried into faithful execution, has been, from the first, apparent. That principle is, that the unembarrassed judgment and the uncontrolled will of the actual bona fide settlers shall determine the character of the institutions under which they are to live. Insurrection within the Territory, or aggression from without shall prove inadequate to the maintenance of this great living principle, military force must, of necessity, be resorted to. And we are satisfied that on this point the President intends to leave no doubt. The black republicans have been too early in their developments. The public mind is not

prepared to accept the doctrines of Garrison, Theodore Parker, and Wendell Phillips. Infidelity and abolition fanaticism are not yet in the ascendant. There is in the nation a strong deep-seated, conservative element. The fathers, though dead, yet live. Their words and deeds live with effective power. The injunctions of Washington have not lost their potency. Nine-tenths of the whole population of the country are the immediate descendants of those who achieved our independence, and we are not at this early day oblivious of what they perilled and suffered for the great inheritance which we possess and have for so many years enjoyed. The fluctuations of superficial politics may distract for a moment, but the bulk of the nation is conservative; and loves this Union; and it will take more than one generation to shake their devotion or produce any great change. We speak this emphatically for extreme men all round. They will do well to ponder it. Under our system, we have not a man to be worshipped or deposed as his fortunes may be, but we have a steadfast government, standing firm in the affections of the people amidst all reasonable convulsions, and the Executive, who relies upon the fundamental law and upon the intelligence of our population to vindicate and uphold him in his efforts to save the country and the constitution, need never doubt nor falter.

It is in this faith that we have expressed, more than once, our commendation of the course of the present Chief Magistrate, and have, in our humble way, endeavored to cheer him on in his patriotic exertions to keep peace in the great crisis in which we are placed. A future, not far distant, will declare that his opinions and actions upon no single subject are more worthy of the highest praise and approbation than those which have been elicited by the question which we have thought it our duty briefly to restate when publishing the official documents. It may not be inappropriate to admonish the black republicans, to remember that they may look in vain for that civil war which they have tried to begin—for that blood which they intended should be spilt in Kansas by the recruits under their champion Lane. The butcher will not go on the strong arm of the government will be put forth with the determined purpose to preserve the peace and enforce the laws. Treason may hang its head, and traitors may skulk away in pursuit of less doubtful and dangerous strategies. We have no fear but the country will be saved, and that we shall have the gratification of witnessing the utter prostration of its enemies.—*Washington Union*.

VIVE LA HUMBUG.—The grossness of the hypocrisy of the late Baltimore convention, in, as being to represent the old-line Whigs of the United States is strikingly illustrated by a single fact. It appointed—listen O, ye heavens and give ear O, earth—it appointed Geo. L. Potter a member of the Executive Committee!! Yes, it recognizes and endorses as an old-line Whig a man whose Know Nothingism is universally known to be of the most ultra and violent character—a man who, for the last two years, both on the stump and through secret circulars has been a most active, thorough-going and virulent advocate of the midnight party, which boastingly proclaimed that the old Whig party was rotten to the core, and that it had risen on its ruins George L. Potter of Jackson, an old-line Whig!! Bah! Could impudence and effrontery taken higher flight or assume a more unblushing aspect. Between George L. Potter and an old-line Whig there is not and cannot be the slightest affinity. You might hash them up together, and boil them in the same pot for six weeks, and at the end of that time there would be two distinct and separate kinds of broth. After his self-stultification we trust we shall hear no more of the late Baltimore Convention as the organ and representative of the old-line Whigs. The imposture has exploded.—*Vicksburg Sentinel*.

Husbands, generally, cost more than their wives, because the brides are given away and the husbands are sold.

There is no such thing as a free lunch.

There is no such thing as a free lunch.

There is no such thing as a free lunch.